

# ***The Congressional Issue Monitor***

***Congressman Jim Nussle***

***Manchester, Iowa***

Summer 2001

## ***Jim Nussle's Agenda for Iowa...***

- ***Strengthening  
the Family Farm***
- ***Eliminate Debt,  
Lower Taxes &  
Responsible Budgets***
- ***Long-term  
Energy Strategy  
Promoting  
Renewable Sources  
& Conservation***
- ***Retirement  
Security for All  
Iowans***
- ***Modernize  
Medicare with  
Prescription Drugs***
- ***Leave No Child  
Behind By  
Reforming  
Education with  
Local Control***
- ***Keep Our  
Nation's Promise to  
Our Veterans***
- ***Fair Trade  
for Better Jobs  
and Wages***

## **A Long-term Energy Strategy Promoting Renewable Sources and Conservation**

*"An energy crisis that has been created over time and has been prolonged by quick fix political band-aid solutions by government, must be addressed now with a long-term strategy to ensure that we have a dependable, reasonably priced, domestic source of energy now and forever. We must not sacrifice in the short-term our environment, sound conservation or our national security in a misguided attempt to have the government control the prices. Iowa will continue to lead the way in showing the country how renewable sources of energy like ethanol, soy-diesel and wind can be part of this long-term solution."*

**Jim Nussle**

### **AGENDA GOALS:**

- 1. Modernize and Increase Conservation**
- 2. Emphasize Renewable Sources and Diversify Energy Sources**
- 3. Improve and Accelerate Environmental Protection**
- 4. Modernize and Expand our Energy Infrastructure**
- 5. Strengthen America's Energy Security**
- 6. Research and Plan for Energy Needs of the Future**

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## Long-term Energy Agenda Legislation:

### **Ethanol Energy Promotion Act of 2001 (H.R. 1999)**

- Promotes the development of small ethanol cooperatives.
- Protects the environment by totally and immediately banning the use of methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) as a fuel additive.
- Requires the federal government to exclusively use ethanol blended fuels in its vehicles.

### **Renewable Energy from Agricultural Products (REAP) Act (H.R. 2000)**

- Promotes value-added agriculture by creating incentives to produce energy from biodiesel, methane, manure, and waste product collection.
- Creates demand for another farm product while promoting conservation by allowing switch grass grown on CRP enrolled land to be used as an energy additive without affecting the program's payment schedule.
- Requires the federal government to exclusively use biodiesel blended fuels in its vehicles with diesel powered engines.
- *Portions of the REAP Act regarding the creation of incentives for producing biomass energy from grain, crop residues, and wood were included in the SAFE Act.*

### **Resource Efficient Appliance Incentives Act (H.R. 1316)**

- Creates an incentive for appliance manufacturers to develop energy-efficient household appliances.
- *Approved by the House as part of the SAFE Act.*

### **Clean Air and Water Preservation Act of 2001 (H.R. 608)**

- Congressman Ganske's legislation to ban MTBE as a fuel additive over the course of 5 years.

### **Wind Energy Production Tax Credit (H.R. 876)**

- Promotes wind energy as a clean and efficient energy source by extending the current wind energy tax credit for an additional 5 years.
- *Also approved by the House as part of the SAFE Act.*

### **President's Plan**

- On May 16, 2001, the Bush Administration published a report outlining its plans for developing a long-term national energy policy designed to aid the private sector in providing a sufficient energy supply to Americans.
- The President is taking a fresh look at the raw materials used to generate power. The United States cannot continue to depend on foreign oil and natural gas.
- Currently only 2 percent of our country's power supply comes from renewable resources. President Bush recognizes that it is important to expand the use of these virtually untapped resources. Although the President's plan is a good start, I believe we can and should do more to promote wind, ethanol, and other biobased fuels.
- *The House of Representatives followed the President's leadership by considering his long-term energy agenda and expanding it by approving a comprehensive energy bill, the Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act of 2001, on August 1, 2001.*